



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350-1000

SECNAVINST 1427.2B  
Pers-26  
31 October 1997

SECNAV INSTRUCTION 1427.2B

From: Secretary of the Navy  
To: All Ships and Stations

Subj: RANK, SENIORITY AND PLACEMENT OF OFFICERS ON THE ACTIVE  
DUTY AND RESERVE ACTIVE STATUS LISTS OF THE NAVY AND  
MARINE CORPS

Ref: (a) Title 10, United States Code (NOTAL)  
(b) DOD Directive 1310.1 of 29 April 96 (NOTAL)

1. Purpose. To provide revised regulations for the establishment and maintenance of the active duty lists and Reserve active status lists of the Navy and the Marine Corps under references (a) and (b). This instruction has been substantially revised and should be read in its entirety.
2. Cancellation. SECNAVINST 1427.2A.
3. Applicability. This instruction applies to Navy and Marine Corps commissioned officers on active duty who are eligible for placement on the active duty lists, and Navy and Marine Corps Reserve officers eligible for placement on the Reserve active status lists.
4. Background. Reference (a) directed establishment of a single listing, in order of precedence, of commissioned officers on active duty in each armed force. It also directed the establishment of an equivalent system for Reserve officers. These lists, the active duty list and reserve active status list, determine seniority in grade, eligibility for consideration by promotion selection boards, and allow for proper promotion timing for officers on the lists. Changes to reference (a) incorporated the Reserve Officer Personnel Management Act (ROPMA) to align Reserve and active officer management procedures.
5. Policy. The active duty lists and Reserve active status lists of the Navy and Marine Corps shall contain the names, grades, dates of rank and precedence numbers of all commissioned officers in the grade of ensign or second lieutenant and above on



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active duty or in Reserve active-status, except as noted in paragraphs 6 and 7. The precedence of officers placed on these lists is uniformly and equitably determined in accordance with this instruction.

6. Active Duty List. The Secretary of the Navy maintains the active duty lists of the Navy and Marine Corps. These lists consist of the names of all officers on active duty except those listed in section 641 of reference (a) as follows:

- a. Reserve officers on active duty for training;
- b. Reserve officers on active duty under section 10211 of reference (a) at the seat of government, and at a headquarters responsible for Reserve affairs, to participate in preparing and administering the policies and regulations affecting the Navy and Marine Corps Reserve components;
- c. Reserve officers serving as members of the Reserve Forces Policy Board under section 10301 of reference (a);
- d. Reserve officers on active duty under section 10303 or 10304 of reference (a) as members of the Navy or Marine Corps Reserve Policy Boards;
- e. Reserve officers on active duty under section 12301(d) of reference (a) in connection with organizing, administering, recruiting, instructing or training the reserve components (Naval Reserve TAR and Marine Corps Reserve (AR);
- f. Reserve officers on active duty to pursue special work (ADSW);
- g. Officers of the Selected Reserve ordered to active duty under a Presidential Selective Reserve Callup (PSRC) under section 12304 of reference (a);
- h. Reserve officers on active duty under 50 U.S.C. Appendix 460(b)(2) (NOTAL) for the administration of the Selective Service System;
- i. Warrant Officers;
- j. Retired officers on active duty; and
- k. Students at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

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7. Reserve Active Status List. The Secretary of the Navy also maintains the Reserve active status lists of the Naval Reserve and the Marine Corps Reserve. These lists contain the names of all reserve officers who are in an active status other than those on the active duty list. Warrant officers are not included in these lists.

8. Rank, Seniority or Placement of Officers on the Active Duty List. An officer's grade and date of rank determine his/her position on the active duty list of the Navy or Marine Corps. Officers are carried on the active duty list in order of seniority in the grades in which they are serving. Dates of rank determine seniority among officers of the same grade. An officer whose date of rank is earlier than the date of rank of another officer of the same rank is senior to that officer. The relative seniority of officers is indicated by assignment of an eight-digit active duty precedence number. An officer whose precedence number is lower than that of another officer of the same grade and date of rank is senior to that officer. Officers whose position on the active duty list results from service under a temporary appointment (such as temporary limited duty officers (LDOs)) or in a grade held by reason of assignment to a position (such as spot-promoted officers) are, at the completion of the appointment or assignment, reassigned to the grade and position on the active duty list that they would have held had they not received that appointment or assignment.

a. Date of Rank. An officer's date of rank is the date the appointment to his/her grade is made, except when otherwise required by reference (a) as indicated below:

(1) The date of rank of officers appointed as ensigns in the Navy and second lieutenants in the Marine Corps in May or June of any year is the same as the date of the graduation of the class of midshipmen of the United States Naval Academy in that year.

(2) The date of rank of officers who are credited with entry grade credit on original appointment will be established as described in the SECNAV Instruction applicable to original appointment in the line or the staff corps in which the officer is appointed.

(3) The date of rank of a Reserve commissioned officer who has not been in continuous active duty since original appointment as a Reserve officer (above grade Chief Warrant Officer (W-5)) may be adjusted to a later date which appropriately reflects the qualifications and level of experience attained and maintained in the competitive category in which

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place on the Active Duty List. This adjustment is made in 1 month increments up to a maximum of 3 years, and is made on the date of placement on the active duty list. Date of rank adjustment for this purpose is not to be made for a break in active service of 6 months or less. An officer with an adjusted date of rank will be placed on the appropriate list after the most junior officer with the same grade and date of rank.

(4) The date of rank of a Regular officer who at the time of his/her original appointment was a Reserve officer is the same as that which he/she held immediately before appointment as a Regular officer if the individual was on the Active Duty List as a Reserve officer at the time of the Regular appointment (augmentation), or that which the officer would have held had the officer been serving on the active duty list as a Reserve officer at the time of the regular appointment.

b. Precedence Number. Precedence numbers for Navy officers consist of a six-digit whole number and a two-digit suffix. Precedence numbers for Marine Corps officers consist of a five-digit whole number and a three-digit suffix. Suffixes allow additional placement of officers on the active duty list in proper precedence order between whole numbers. Precedence numbers are based upon grade, date of rank, and the following policies:

(1) Original Appointments. Officers receiving original appointments to grades with the same grade and date of rank are assigned precedence as follows:

(a) Officers commissioned as ensigns in the Navy and placed on the active duty list will not be assigned a precedence number until completion of at least 1 year of active commissioned service. Until then, precedence is indicated by date of rank and alphabetical sequence by last name.

(b) Officers of the Navy who are appointed as ensigns (other than limited duty officers) will be rank-ordered by percentile of class standing among other ensigns appointed from all commissioning sources on the same date or with the same date of rank. The Naval Academy graduate each year who ranks highest in his/her class and who is appointed an ensign is assigned the lowest (most senior) precedence number of those ensigns appointed with the same date of rank. All other officers, for whom percentile of class standings can be calculated, will take precedence with each other according to their relative class standing regardless of their competitive category.

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(c) Officers appointed as Limited Duty Officers on the same day in the Navy are assigned a constructive percentile class ranking based on rank order of selection by the board which recommended their appointments. This standing will be used to assign a precedence number.

(d) Officers appointed ensigns in the Navy for whom no percentile class standing can be calculated will rank junior to all other officers having the same date of rank and will be ranked among themselves based on seniority in order of:

1. Date of appointment;
2. Regular officers take precedence over Reserve officers;
3. Date of birth. When two or more officers have the same date of birth, they are ranked alphabetically by last name.

(e) Officers commissioned as second lieutenants in the Marine Corps and placed on the Active Duty List will not be assigned a precedence number until completion of at least 1 year of active commissioned service or completion of the Basic School, whichever is later. Until assigned a precedence number, service academy graduates are initially placed on the active duty list in order of their class standing at their Service academies. All other officers are ranked alphabetically by last name behind Service academy graduates.

(f) Precedence numbers are assigned to all second lieutenants, including graduates of a Service academy, according to the order of their overall class average (expressed to the nearest thousandth of a percent) at the Basic School. In the event of a tie, officers are ranked among themselves according to their class average in leadership at the Basic School.

(g) Second lieutenants for whom no Basic School class average can be computed are ranked among themselves below all other officers having the same date of rank based upon seniority in order of the following criteria:

1. Date of appointment;
2. Regular officers take precedence over Reserve officers;
3. Date of birth. When two or more officers have the same date of birth, they are ranked alphabetically by last name.

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(h) Officers appointed as limited duty officers on the same day in the Marine Corps are rank-ordered based on their seniority as a warrant officer or enlisted member immediately prior to the effective date of appointment. This standing is used to assign a precedence number.

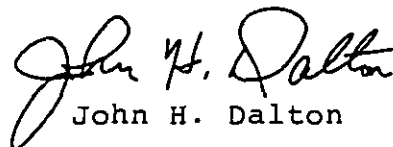
(i) Officers who are appointed in a grade above ensign or second lieutenant whose precedence cannot otherwise be determined will be assigned precedence based upon:

1. Total active commissioned service (other than as a commissioned warrant officer);
2. Date of appointment;
3. Regular officers take precedence over Reserve officers;
4. Date of birth. When two or more officers have the same date of birth, they are ranked alphabetically by last name.

(j) Reserve officers who are recalled to active duty will be placed on the active duty list in the precedence position that is next junior to the Reserve officer's running mate on the active duty list, unless the Reserve officer's date of rank is adjusted under paragraph 8a(3).

(2) Promotion. Section 624 of reference (a) requires officers to be promoted to the next higher grade in the order in which their names appear on the promotion list for their grade and competitive category. They are assigned new precedence numbers in the higher grade based on their promotion dates of rank and their precedence positions in the previous grade.

9. Placement on the Active Duty List and Reserve Active Status List. The Chief of Naval Personnel and the Commandant of the Marine Corps will use this instruction to place officers on the active duty list or Reserve active status list who are commissioned, reappointed, ordered to active duty, or promoted after 14 September 1981 for active duty officers, and after 1 October 1996 for Reserve officers.

  
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